

## FIELD TRIPS OF THE CLUB

WAWAYANDA CEDAR SWAMP, NEW JERSEY,

DECEMBER 2, 1934

A party of ten members and guests visited the white cedar swamp on the Wawayanda plateau in New Jersey in search of mosses and lichens on December 2. A light rain the previous evening had brought these plants to their full freshness and they appeared in abundance.

The "hieroglyphics" lichens, *Graphis scripta* and *G. recta* were very common. The latter was found on birch and has the fruit or apothecia more or less parallel to the lenticels of the bark. A light gray crust on tree trunks was identified as *Pertusaria communis* with two to several apothecia sunken in the warts on the surface. A similar species, but with a zonate margin, was *Pertusaria velata*. *Buellia myriocarpa* was common as a green crust with small black apothecia on trees. Among the lichens, however, a rare find was *Calicium polyporeum*. This parasite on the common *Polystictus versicolor* has no visible thallus and its fruit appears as rows of tiny "nails" on the upper surface of the fungus bracket.

Parmelias were very common in the vicinity; *Parmelia conspersa*, *P. rudecta*, *P. caperata* and *P. physodes* being seen. Other foliose lichens seen were *Cetraria atlantica* and *Nephromopsis ciliaris*, which is similar but has cilia along the margin. Cladonias were in fine shape and robust colonies of *Cladonia cristatella*, *C. chlorophaea* and *C. bacillaris* were seen. A few plants of the *Cladonia rangiferina*, *C. furcata* and *C. verticillata* were found on the higher ground outside the swamp.

The moss *Georgia pellucida* was abundant and had both capsules and gemma cups present in numbers. In its characteristic location at the bases of trees, the common *Thelia hirtella*, with whitish peristome, was discovered. A few capsules of that unusual and most attractive moss, *Buxbaumia aphylla*, were found by members of the party. When fresh the capsule is a light translucent green and the peristome and stalk are a shining chestnut brown. The plant is usually found on a bare spot of soil and the practically leafless stalk springs from the persistent protonema which is dark green and easily recognized by the initiate. Al-

though this moss is spoken of as being quite rare in the New York region, it has turned up in many localities and is even locally common.

Liverworts were a conspicuous part of the swamp flora, especially along the old corduroy road which leads to the old iron furnace near Wawayanda lake. *Bazzania trilobata* was everywhere. *Ptilidium pulcherrimum* was also common, its hair-like leaves sometimes reddish brown, although usually green. Its capsules were fully formed, ready to burst into fruit with the coming of spring. The familiar *Marchantia polymorpha* of botanical laboratories also flourished on the old road. *Pellia epiphylla*, with a very thin thallus, inhabited several moist banks at the edge of the ruts in the road.

On the dry land, an island in the swamp yielded four species of club-mosses growing but a few yards from each other. *Lycopodium obscurum*, *L. complanatum*, *L. lucidulum* and *L. clavatum* were identified by the group. The latter species grew in a dense sward covering an area of several square rods.

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